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ENG 3504-001: The Grotesque

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The Grotesque

1. Course objectives

   To study and enjoy and wince at wonders of the grotesque in movies; to learn to watch films more closely; to share personal aesthetic responses with other thoughtful people.

2. Course content

   A variety of films in which the grotesque is central to "aesthetic meanings."

3. Writing requirements

   Weekly quizzes based on discussion and films viewed in class (7 questions for each quiz); a journal (at least 200 words for each class period), clearly dated and typed or written legibly every-other-line (illegible journals will be graded "F"); a final "take-home" style exam/term paper (2500-3000 words), focused on the main theme(s) of the course.

4. Final grade

5. The final grade will be determined by weighing the various requirements as follows:

   **Quizzes:** 25%
   **Journal:** 35%
   **Final paper:** 25%
   **Class participation:** 15%

6. Attendance

   Not required (but quizzes can not be made up without an excused absence, and the quality of your daily journal—concreteness, originality, consistency—represents a major part of your grade).

7. Studies with disabilities

   If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

8. Sexual content; vulgarities; low-down crimes and misdemeanors

   Be aware, discussion will sometimes focus on the "dark" (and sometimes grotesque) parts of the human body (genitalia, buttocks, the inner ear, intestines, the dirt of a fingernail...). No pornographic or "NC-17" films will be viewed/shown in class, but if you are offended by the thought (or, yes, also, the sight) of any part of the human body, you should not enroll in this particular course.